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Public Health.

Improvement of water-supply to Coonoor.

* 293 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the final orders regarding the improvement of water-supply to Coonoor was passed and under what conditions the Government sanctioned the scheme;

(b) when the work was commenced and when the work is expected to be finished;

(c) what progress has been made in the work every month since the work was commenced; and

(d) whether the municipal council offered to have the work done under its own management and if so why that offer was not accepted?

A.—(a) The order was issued in June 1924. A copy of the order^a is laid on the table. The existing water-supply to the town was reported to be unsatisfactory.

(b) The work was begun on the 3rd March 1925 and is expected to be completed by the 31st August 1925.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) The municipal council did not offer to carry out the work through its own agency.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“May I know if the municipal council suggested that they would be able to do the work if it was entrusted to them?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“There is no formal offer from the municipal council.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Was the municipal council ever consulted?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“It is not the duty of the Government to do so.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Would it not be more desirable to do so in the interests of the rate-payers?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“If the request comes from the municipal council itself, Government will consider it on its merits.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Is there any other case of such a municipal council?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The question does not arise.”

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Honorary Assistant Commissioners under the Religious Endowments Act.

* 294 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of honorary assistant commissioners appointed under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act (I of 1925), their names and the districts for which they have been appointed;

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 543-544 infra.

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- (b) what are their powers and duties ;
 (c) the position they occupy in relation to the trustees and commissioners ;
 (d) the allowances, if any, payable to them per annum ; and
 (e) the section or authority under which the said appointments were made ?

	Name.	District.
A.—(a) 1.	M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib Appa Rao Garu ...	Ganjam.
2.	„ Sri Vikrama Deva Varma	Vizagapatam.
	Avargal.	
3.	„ T. R. Chandrasekar Ayyar	Chingleput.
	Avargal, B.A. (Hons.).	
4.	„ R. Gopalakrishna Pillai	South Arcot.
5.	„ P. Chakrapani Chettiyar	Coimbatore.
	Avargal, B.A., B.L.	
6.	„ T. K. Venkateswara Ayyar	North Malabar.
	Avargal, B.A.	
7.	„ E. Sankara Raja	South Malabar.
8.	„ T. Venkatarama Sastriyar	Ramnad.
	Avargal.	

- (b) The honorary assistant commissioners are required to help the Board in gathering information about the history, properties, incomes and usages of religious institutions and the methods of administration of the endowments connected therewith. They are also expected to help the commissioners of the division concerned in the matter of making local enquiries about any grievances or complaints that may be referred to them for report.
- (c) They have no control over the trustees. They merely assist the commissioners.
- (d) The honorary assistant commissioners are given an allowance not exceeding Rs. 600 per annum to meet their tour charges.
- (e) Section 13 of the Act.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Are these honorary assistant commissioners appointed by the Government or by the President of the Board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ By the President of the Board.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Are they appointed from the personal knowledge of the members of the Board or by means of reports received from District officers ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I cannot say how these appointments are made.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Is it open to these honorary assistant commissioners to correspond with the trustees and call for returns, etc. ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Government have no information on the point ; but if there are any complaints Government will certainly look into them.”

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- (e) whether the Government propose to make any grants for the purpose; if so, the amount of such grants;
- (f) whether a healthy site has been selected for the projected hospital;
- (g) in how many years the said hospital will be completed; and
- (h) what amount of money has been promised for the said hospital by the district board of South Kanara, by the municipality of Mangalore and by the taluk boards in the district?

- A.—(a) Subscriptions are being collected for improving and extending the present Women and Children's Hospital, Mangalore.
- (b) Rupees 24,000 according to the latest information received by Government.
 - (c) Rupees 40,000.
 - (d) Yes.
 - (e) The matter is under consideration.
 - (f) The proposal is to extend and improve the existing hospital on its present site. It is understood that the Mangalore Municipal Council has agreed to acquire and reclaim the area to the west of the hospital and make it available for the proposed improvements. The site and buildings to be vacated by the Police Hospital are also to be added to the Women and Children's Hospital.
 - (g) Roughly, it may take one year for the improvements and extensions to be completed.
 - (h) The Government have no information.

Alleged danger to Chingleput people by lepers being allowed to go outside the Leper settlement.

* 290 Q.—RAO SAHIB U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the letter published in the *Madras Mail* of 26th June 1925 under the signatures of four respectable gentlemen of Chingleput pointing out the danger to the town and suburbs of Chingleput by the lepers being thus let loose, defiling tanks, wells, etc.;
- (b) what action the Government propose to take in the matter of carrying out the remedial measures suggested therein;
- (c) whether the Government propose to extend the leper settlement so as to accommodate all the lepers in the Presidency in that locality; and
- (d) if so, whether the Government will kindly place on the table of the House all connected papers with regard to the proposed extension of the Leper settlement at Tirumani?

- A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.
- (b) The matter is receiving attention.
 - (c) & (d) The Government are considering the question of the best method of dealing with leprosy in the light of recent medical researches. There is no immediate likelihood of a large increase in the Tirumani settlement.